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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether it is ordered to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

CENTENNIAL EXCURSION.

Visit of Government Officials, Senators and Congressmen to Philadelphia.

Bounteous Hospitality of the Quaker City.

The Banquet--Speeches by Chief Justice Waite, Senator Morton, Governor Bedle, Ex-Speaker Blaine and Others.

A IOW BY THE PRESIDENT.

PHILADELPHIA, December 18.—At ten o'clock this morning the guests of the Centennial Commission left the Continental Hotel *en route* for Fairmount Park. On arriving at Eighteenth and Walnut streets they were met by the President, who is the guest of Mr. George W. Childs, during his brief stay in Philadelphia. The line, headed by the President's carriage, then proceeded on toward the Centennial grounds, where they arrived about 11:30 A. M. Horticultural Hall was decorated in a finished and artistic manner. About one o'clock the Presidential party arrived and entered the room, being led by Secretary Chandler. Mrs. President Grant was escorted by Mrs. G. W. Childs, and was followed by Secretaries Bristow and Robeson. At 2:30 o'clock the assembled guests sat down to the bountifully spread table, Hassler's orchestra performing the Centennial Reception March.

When order was restored, Mr. John C. Bullitt, who presided on the occasion, called upon Bishop Simpson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to ask graces. When this was ended, the guests partook of the bountiful repast spread before them; after which Mr. Bullitt expressed gratification at seeing the distinguished visitors present and trusted they would have no reason to complain of the hospitality of the people of Philadelphia. He explained the dimensions of the Centennial buildings, and said they would cover more ground than those of any exhibition of modern times. Already more than one-half of the space has been taken by foreign governments. Speaking of the cost, he said it would be $6,724,860. What was needed to complete the work was $1,537,140. The speaker urged upon the representatives of the Government to consider the importance of the exhibition and to afford the means necessary to finish the work. Whatever prestige may result from its success will enure to the credit of the entire country.

To the toast, "The President of the United States," President Grant simply bowed and declined to make a speech.

Chief Justice Waite responded to the toast, "The Supreme Court of the United State." He thanked the people of Philadelphia for the handsome reception tendered, and trusted the great event about to transpire would prove a success in every respect.

"The Senate of the United States" was responded to by Senator Morton, of Indiana. He said that Philadelphia and Pennsylvania had done all they could, and he believed that the other States of the country would come forward. If the Exposition was carried out, and he had no doubt that it would be, the generations yet to come would cherish our memories as we do those of our ancestors of one hundred years ago.

Mr. John Hancock, of Texas, responded to the toast, "The House of Representatives." The difference of opinion between the two sections, he said, had passed away in the great desire to help the patriotic movement which took place next year. He expressed astonishment at the great progress made on the buildings.

Governor Bedie, of New Jersey, responded to the toast, "The Governors of the several States." He said the Government was right in leaving the people to do the work at first, but now it was time for Congress to take part in the great exposition. New Jersey, said the speaker, had furnished one-fifteenth of the sum asked, and the Government should now come forward at this time and do its share.

"Agriculture, the basis of the prosperity of the nation," was the next sentiment. This was responded to by C. Henry Harrison, of Illinois. He spoke eloquently in favor of the great Exposition.

"Commerce, the handmaid of all other industries in exchanging commodities among our people and with foreign nations," was responded to by James G. Blaine, who made a witty address, closing with complimentary remarks to Pennsylvania and what she had done during the century now drawing to an end.

"Mining—it furnishes the fuel that supplies the furnaces and forges for our manufactories and mechanical industries, for agriculture it provides the material for its implements, and for commerce the gold and silver necessary in the exchange of our products with the nations of the world." This toast was responded to by George Hamilton, in an appropriate address. Concluding, he said we have all the natural advantages to make the coming Exposition the greatest that ever took place, and the Old World will come forward with her works of art and make it grand in every detail.

John Welsh and ex-Governor Hawley then made addresses bearing on the Centennial, after which the banquet was brought to a close.

The majority of the gentlemen from Washington returned on the six o'clock train, which started from the hall. General Grant and other dignitaries remain over to attend a reception given by the Saturday Night Club.

While the guests were visiting the buildings, quite a noticeable event occurred in the partial destruction by fire of the famed "Sweet Briar Mansion" in the park—a centennial landmark, erected about 1763, and occupied during the Revolutionary War by a Tory General, but after that time by a merchant of Philadelphia, then by a farmer, until the city took possession and made the place a portion of Fairmount Park. The fire originated from a defective flue, and proved quite disastrous; but the building will be restored to its original condition before the Exhibition opens.

WHISKY TRIALS.

Babcock's Case Set for January.

ST. LOUIS, December 18.—General Babcock did not arrive in St. Louis this morning and plead to the indictment against him, as had been expected. His attorneys were present, and the result of a short discussion between them and the District Attorney was that notice was ordered to be served on General Babcock to appear before the United States District Court to plead on the 11th of January, which is the first day for which a jury is summoned.

CASUALTIES.

Railway Collision at Columbus—Several Persons Injured.

COLUMBUS, December 18.—A collision occurred here to-day between a locomotive on the Panhandle road, which was being taken to the round-house, and a locomotive drawing a train of cars on the Baltimore and Ohio road. Both locomotives were considerably damaged, and Frances A. Harris, a young woman riding on one of the engines, was badly injured. Mrs. Sarah Louis, of Union Station, was considerably injured by being thrown upon the stove in one of the Baltimore and Ohio cars. Other passengers were more or less jarred, but none were seriously injured. Michael McDonough, one of the engineers, was considerably scalded, but will recover.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, stationary, followed by falling barometer, south and east winds and cooler, followed by warmer and clear weather.

The Prince of Wales has left Madras for Calcutta.

There are eighteen inches of snow at Jamestown, N. Y.

The Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims has adjourned till the 19th of January.

The number of hogs packed in Cincinnati to date is 295,971; the number packed the same time last season was 295,557.

D. A. Ross & Co., large lumber manufacturers and dealers of Detroit, have failed. Liabilities $300,000; assets $400,000.

At the instance of the Fish and Game Protection Society for the counties of Prescott and Russell, Ontario, Canada, forty hunters from the United States have been arrested for killing deer out of season in the vicinity of Moose Creek. They were fined and their game confiscated.

Messrs. George P. Rowell & Co. state that during the week ending Saturday thirty-three newspapers of all sorts have suspended in the United States and the British Provinces. Of these four were daily, fifteen weekly, three semi-monthly, eight monthly, and three quarterly. During the same period twenty newspapers and periodicals were established, including one daily, sixteen weeklies, one semi-monthly, and two monthlies.

EXPRESS CAR ROBBERY.

The Messenger Shut Up in One Of His Chests

And the Safe Rifled of its Contents.

ST. LOUIS, December 18.—Between four and five o'clock this morning the United States express car on the St. Louis, Kansas City and Northern train, due here at 6:15 A. M., was entered between Furguson and Jennings Station, some ten or twelve miles from here, the messenger, Chas. Kincaid, was thrown into a large package-chest and locked up, and the safe robbed of from $10,000 to $20,000 in money and bonds. Kincaid says he was lying on one of the package boxes in the car half asleep, when he felt a heavy hand on his shoulder, and on turning his head around was confronted by a pistol in the hands of a masked man. Before he could speak he was seized by the collar of his coat from behind, and, under cover of two more pistols in the hands of another masked man, was thrust into a large package box, which had been emptied of its packages by the robbers, and the lid closed on him and locked. He does not know what occurred after that until the train reached St. Louis, where he was released, except that he heard the men working at the safe, and supposed they were robbing it. He says the doors of the car, besides being locked with the ordinary snap-lock, are secured by chains fastened loosely on the inside, so that they can be opened a few inches, but still so secure that nobody can enter the car. Kincaid, on taking charge of the car at Kansas City, observed that one of the staples on the rear door had been drawn out, and that the chain on that door was useless. After leaving Nexico the messenger has nothing to do, and usually takes short naps on that end of the route. When Kincaid lay down on the package box he took the precaution to place his heaviest trunk, weighing about 150 pounds, against the door, so that even if it were unlocked from the outside it could not be opened without pushing this trunk away. This was done, but so noiselessly that the messenger, in his half-asleep condition, did not hear it. On the arrival of the train here he was released from his confinement in a nearly smothered condition. The car was in pretty good order, but the safe was rifled of all valuables.

Kincaid can give a very meagre description of the robbers, and the detectives here have so far very little information to work on. It is thought the robbers crossed the bridge and started East immediately after the arrival of the train, or that they left the train as soon as they finished the robbery. Kincaid thinks they boarded the train at St. Charles, but the fact that the door of the express car had been tampered with at Jersey City leads to the belief that the robbers might have come through from that point as passengers.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 18, 1875.

CLERICAL ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

Rev. H. N. Wright, Methodist, and Rev. Mr. Bocock, Baptist, of Bellmore, Long Island, are in a legal difficulty, the former accusing the latter of committing an assault and battery upon him. Mr. Wright was formerly pastor of the Methodist Church at Rockville Center, but was displaced by the Conference, since which time he alternated between Bellmore and Merrick, and preached to small congregations. He accused Mr. Bocock of desiring to supplant him in the regards of the Baltimore flock. Last Sunday the two met at the depot, and coming to words, Mr. Bocock's right hand—quiet by accident as he alleges—came in contact with the left lappel of Mr. Wright's coat; the latter's hat was knocked off, and he came near falling from the platform. It is expected that the hearing of the case will be accompanied by some curious developments.

THE ALEXANDER MURDER.

There are no new developments in the Alexander tragedy. The police, though still at work in the case, believe that they have secured sufficient evidence to convict P. Nathan Rubenstein of the murder.

NEW YORK, December 19, 1875.

EX-MAYOR HALL'S THEATRICAL DEBUT.

Mr. A. Oakey Hall appeared at the Park Theater last night before a very large audience in his new play of "Crucible."

The *Herald* says: "The occasion was one of great interest, for the appearance on the stage of a man like Mr. Hall is something not often seen, and the result was wholly unexpected. The plot of the piece is weak and the language stilted, and if the principal character was in the hands of anyone else it would enjoy a very brief run. Mr. Hall's appearance before the footlights was warmly greeted, and he seemed quite at home in his new vocation during the first act, but as the action of the piece progressed he apparently lost that poise so essential to success in the dramatic art, while the scope of his character really gave him very little opportunity for the display of dramatic fire and power. There were no strong nor thrilling situations to strike the spectators or fasten their attention, while the denouement is so tamely wrought out that it became meaningless and insipid. The dialogue is at times very good crisp and there are a few good scenes. The nervousness of a first night was naturally against Mr. Hall in making any decided impression, but with time he will, no doubt, achieve what all his friends desire—success."

The *Times* says: "That the play last night was partly designed as a fragment of autobiography it is impossible to doubt. The part which Mr. Oakey Hall plays in it is one calculated to appeal strongly to the sympathies of every heart—an innocent man wrongfully accused of a great crime, convicted on false evidence, and suffering a punishment which rightfully belonged to others. His one desire is for a vindication of his character, and when that comes by a strange and somewhat confused chain of accidents, the natural nobleness of his character scarcely shines out more triumphantly than it did when ruin and disgrace were gathered most thickly round his head. In all this, some reference may have been intended to the circumstances of Mr. Hall's connection with some recent passages of history which we need not now enter into. We can only say that a task which was very difficult, and which demanded the most delicate and careful treatment, has been successfully carried out."

The *World* says: "In all the scenes of the 'Crucible'" in which Mr. Hall was at all worthily supported last night, his success was not only unequivocal, but as well deserved as it was unequivocal."

CONDITION OF CHARLES O'CONOR.

There was a slight improvement in Mr. O'Conor's condition yesterday. He was in good spirits and conversed freely, and during the afternoon ate with apparent relish a small quantity of broiled chicken. Mr. Wheeler H. Peckham was with Mr. O'Conor about an hour, and he was also visited by Judge Peabody, Mr. Belmont and Mr. Wm. S. Livingstone.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

D. M. Wonders has been appointed Storekeeper for the sixteenth District of Pennsylvania.

George S. Bangs, Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, will resign his position January 1st.

Mrs. Gorham, wife of George C. Gorham, Secretary of the United States Senate, died in Boston last Friday.

Rouhan, the suspected murderer of the Conklin girl, in Rutland, N. Y., has been indicted by the Grand Jury.

Beverly Ellison Warner, of Jersey City, took the gold medal in the oratorical contest in Trinity College, Hartford, last week.

Ex-Governor John C. Brown, of Tennessee, has been appointed Vice President of the Texas Pacific Railroad, and has accepted the office.

Samuel B. Crail has been appointed Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, and Austin Ballard, Clerk of the United States District Court, at Louisville.

The Emperor of Brazil will embark on board the Henelius, at Rio Janeiro, on the 20th of January, for New York, to begin his tour of North America and Europe.

Benjamin W. Thayer, one of the proprietors of the Boston Theater, and formerly a journalist and well known business man, died in Boston Friday night, aged sixty-one years.

Father J. V. McNamara, of New Brunswick, N. J., the famous Irish revolutionist, has issued an address to his countrymen in relation to "Irishmen at the Centennial." After referring to the fact that Ireland has no separate department assigned in the Centennial buildings, but that all Irish products must be arranged under the general heading of Great Britain, he then calls upon all Irishmen to make a great demonstration in one body next year at the Centennial.

A young man representing himself to be the son of William D. Bishop, President of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, has been traveling around the country for the past two or three months, and, by means of forged letters, receipts and drafts, has swindled several railroad men and others in Chicago, St. Louis and other places. He probably is also trying to obtain free passes on railroads. He is about twenty-two years of age, and seems to be well posted in regard to Mr. Bishop's family and Bridgeport people generally.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEES

The List as Completed Up to Midnight.

The Vice Presidential Succession.

Increased Interest in the Settlement of the Dispute.

Number of Precedents on Both Sides.

The Movement to Elect a New President of the Senate Next Month.

The Philadelphia Excursion Enlivens Congressional Interest in the Centennial.

George H. Pendleton's Friends Preparing to Push Him for the Presidency.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 19, 1875.

House Standing Committees.

Speaker Kerr has been revising and perfecting the list of committees since the adjournment on Friday. He was in conference all day to-day and until a late hour to-night with two or three trusted friends, and at midnight the last had not been entirely finished. The following, it can be stated with tolerable certainty, is the list so far as it has been absolutely determined up to midnight:

Committee on Ways and Means—Morrison, of Illinois, Chairman; Fernando Wood, Thomas, of Maryland; Randall, of Virginia; Ben. Hill, Hancock, of Texas; Blaine, Burchard, Wm. D. Kelley, Garfield, Chapin, of Massachusetts. This committee, it will be seen, is a very strong one. There is reason to believe that Mr. Wood will consider his assignment to the second place a degradation, and that he will in consequence decline committee service altogether. He has said as much. The committee is a hard-money committee. With possibly two exceptions, the entire committee is in favor of specie resumption. The committee will never indorse the greenback heresy of substituting paper for gold in payment for customs duties. Mr. Morrison received the chairmanship for the reason that the Speaker is of the opinion that the Mississippi Valley is entitled to the chairmanship of this great committee. This is an innovation upon both Republican and Democratic precedents. Mr. Morrison was perhaps further entitled to this chairmanship at the hands of Kerr, for the reason that he managed Kerr's campaign for the Speakership. He presented his name to the caucus and was generally recognized as the leader of the Kerr movements. Mr. Morrison is a hard-money and a thoroughly loyal man. Thomas, of Maryland, was at one time Secretary of the Treasury. Hancock, of Texas, was transferred from the Committee on Appropriations, as was General Garfield. The latter would no doubt have been an embarrassment on the Appropriations Committee to any new Chairman, and it is pretty well under toot that Randall did not care to have, as a jealous opposition critic under him, the man who had been Chairman of the committee for six years. Mr. Blaine has received the place to which his leadership of the House seems to entitle him. Upon heads the minority upon the leading committee. Mr. Burchard will supply more useful figures for the advocates of a revenue tariff than any of the Democrats while Mr. Kelley is a representative of the other side of the tariff question. The West has seldom been as strongly represented on this committee. Illinois has two members.

Of the Committee on Appropriations, Randall is Chairman, with Hiltman, Wells, of Missouri, Singleton, of Mississippi, and Hatcher. The remaining members of this committee are said to be among the most economical in the House. Mr. Randall is known to be liberal with his appropriations, and Mr. Holman is put next, to handicap him. Mr. Wells, of Missouri, had hoped to become Chairman of the Pacific Railroad Committee, but has been assigned to this place, which is considered equal to a chairmanship.

Of Banking and Currency, S. S. Cox is Chairman, and Payne, of Ohio, and Scott Wike, of Illinois, are members. These three are all hard-money men. The remaining members have not been fully determined upon. Of Kerr's rival candidates for Speaker, Cox and Randall alone receive a chairmanship, although the second place on Ways and Means is generally regarded as the equivalent of an ordinary chairmanship.

Of the Printing Committee, Vance, of Ohio, a new member, is Chairman.

Of the Committee on Library, Heister Clymer, of Pennsylvania, is Chairman. Mr. Waddell, of North Carolina, had expected this appointment.

Military Affairs—Frank Hereford, of West Virginia, Chairman. The only old member on the Committee is Eppa Hunton, of Virginia, who commanded a Confederate regiment.

Committee on the Judiciary—Proctor Knott, Chairman.

Committee on Elections—Harris, of Virginia, Chairman.

Committee on Commerce—Williams, of Michigan, a Liberal, Chairman.

Committee on Revision of Laws—Saylor, of Ohio, Chairman.

Committee on Foreign Affairs—Swann, of Maryland, Chairman. Mr. Swann is a conservative on the Cuban question, and has generally agreed with Secretary Fish on the foreign policy of the Government.

Committee on Pacific Railroads—Lamar, Chairman.

War Claims—Bright, of Tennessee, Chairman.

The Vice Presidential Vacancy.

The numerous doubts which have always more or less been suggested with reference to the tenure of office of the President of the Senate *pro tempore*, have, since the death of the Vice President, not only been revived but have derived increased importance from the position taken by several Senators and Representatives whose positions were heretofore called to notice. The present agitation has no particular reference to Mr. Ferry, who holds the office through election at the closing hour of the last session, but is designed to overcome the embarrassment which might arise were the right of Mr. Ferry, under the circumstances, to become a subject of controversy between the two Houses of Congress. The introduction of a resolution providing for the election of a President *pro tempore* of the Senate on January 7, is intended to remove all possibility of doubt and nothing else, but it is likely, as the office is invested with contingencies not impossible, that there will be a lively contest, should it be determined to have a new election. As is known, both the Constitution and the statutes are very imperfect with respect to the succession, and additional legislation, to place this beyond question, has always been very much needed with respect to the tenure of the office of the President of the Senate *pro tempore*. There have been, since the organization of Congress, four cases of the election of President *pro tempore* ceased at the meeting of the Senate after the first recess. On the other hand, there are forty-nine precedents in which the office of President *pro tempore* was not determined by the expiration of the recess, but continued until the appearance of the Vice President or the election of another person. One of the most recent of these precedents occurred when the Vice President, Andrew Johnson, having become President by the death of Mr. Lincoln, Lafayette S. Foster, who had been chosen President *pro tempore* at the special session of the Senate in March, 1865, resumed the chair after the recess.

Success of the Philadelphia Excursion.

Those Senators and Representatives who participated in the Congressional excursion to the Centennial buildings at Fairmount Park, are enthusiastic in their comments upon the labors of the Centennial Commission. But one of the ill-bred appropriation should be made, not only as a proper national contribution to the patriotic enterprise, but as a recognition of the glorious success which has so far crowned the work.

Pendleton for President.

Several Western Democratic rag-money politicians are announced to be here shortly in the interest of Pendleton for the Presidency.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 19, 1875.

FITZ JOHN PORTER'S FRIENDS DESPONDENT.

The friends of Fitz John Porter say they have reasons for believing that the Executive will take no action on the request of General Porter for a review of his case.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1875.

STATISTICS FROM THE TREASURY.

The balances in the Treasury at the close of business to-day were as follows: Currency, $19,544,141; special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates of deposit, $45,460,000; coin, including $21,447,000 coin certificates, $69,205,283; outstanding legal tenders, $372,471,772.

The Treasury now holds $364,690,112 in bonds to secure national bank circulation, and $18,636,500 to secure public deposits. National bank circulation outstanding, $343,938,278, of which amount $2,127,750 are gold notes. The internal revenue receipts to-day were $423,691 80; for the month to date, $5,052,026 76; for the fiscal year to date, $55,257,566 13. The customs receipts to-day were $503,895 61; for the month to date, $5,288,677 78; for the fiscal year to date, $73,355,327 77.

The bank notes received to-day for redemption amount to $627,325; total receipts for the week ending to-day, $3,413,675.

PHILADELPHIA.

Moody and Sankey Meetings—President Grant, Governor Hartranft and Many Other Notables Present in the Evening.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19.—Three immense meetings were held to-day by Messrs. Moody and Sankey. Mr. Moody preached on the good effect of using the little word "no" at the proper time. Mr. Sankey sang some of his sweetest hymns. The meeting in the afternoon was for ladies. Among the distinguished persons present were Hon. Geo. Bancroft, Judge Strong, of the Supreme Court, and Senator Christiancy, of Michigan. Mr. Moody preached from the text, "I pray Thee have me excused," showing how many persons made excuses for not coming to Christ. A large number of ladies arose for prayers and subsequently entered the inquiry rooms.

At the evening meeting every seat was occupied fifteen minutes after the doors were opened. This was caused by the rumor, circulated through the day, that President Grant would be present. Among those present were the President and wife, ex-Senator Cattell, Governor Hartranft, A. E. Borie, Colonel Fred Grant and wife, Postmaster General Jewell and wife; ex-Speaker Blaine, Gov. Bedle, of New Jersey; Senator Wallace, General Garfield, Judge Duell, Commissioner of Patents; General Robert E. Patterson, Judge Strong, and many Congressmen and Washington newspaper correspondents. Mr. Moody delivered the same sermon as in the afternoon. Ex-Speaker Blaine said Mr. Moody was the most remarkable man he ever heard, and Postmaster General Jewell said his remarks in the latter part of his discourse were wonderful. The President also expressed pleasure at the services.

HEAVY FAILURES IN PROVIDENCE.

Suspension of Providence Tool Company and Green & Cranston.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., December 18.—The banking firm of Green & Cranston, of this city, suspended payment this morning, and made an assignment to James V. Smith. The liabilities are represented to be $675,000. The assets—firm and individual—are said to be $800,000. The immediate cause of the suspension was the failure of the Providence Tool Company, which has large contracts with the Turkish Government for arms, to meet maturing obligations at the bankers. It is supposed that the delay in expected remittances from Turkey is at the bottom of the trouble.

Representatives of the Providence Tool Company state that the embarrassments of that company are only temporary and do not arise from its relations with the Turkish Government, which pays every week for the arms manufactured, and has now on deposit with the tool company $1,200,000 worth of guns as security for the fulfilment of their contract.

PROVIDENCE, December 19.—The Providence Tool Company, which went aground and it has a contract to manufacture 600,000 rifles for the Turkish Government, of which 220,000 are completed; that during the past year it has reduced the debt incurred in making preparations to the amount of $600,000, and added $300,000 to its general assets. A combination of unfortunate circumstances has compelled it to ask its creditors for an extension. The assets of the company are estimated to exceed its liabilities by a million and a quarter of dollars. The stockholders, who are wealthy, intend to employ their utmost resources to aid in the extrication of the company from embarrassment.

GRANT'S MISSOURI FARM.

Hall Safe Company Negotiating for its Purchase.

ST. LOUIS, December 18.—It will be remembered that some time since negotiations were pending between President Grant and the Pullman Palace Car Company for the purchase of the former's farm on the Gravois creek. These have fallen through, and now the Hall Patent Safe Company, of Indianapolis, are negotiating for the land on which to build their works in the vicinity of the Gravois creek. The company want 1,000 acres, and General Grant, for his 793 acres, has made a proposition to sell at the rate of $300 per acre, including all the improvements and appurtenances on the farm. This would realize the sum of $237,900. The Safe Company, it is understood, do not object to the price, but coupled its acceptance with a proposition to General Grant that he take $50,000 of the company's stock, which proposition he is considering; and this is as far as the pending negotiations have progressed. The Grant farm comprises the original White Haven farm, bought from William L. Long in 1818, by Theodore Hunt, the fur trading agent of John Jacob Astor, of Astoria, in 1812. Mr. Hunt sold out the farm in 1822 to John Cromwell, of Pittsburgh, the half brother of Mrs. Frederick Dent, and Dent moved on it in 1823. From Judge Dent the farm descended to his Presidential son-in-law.

FIRE RECORD.

West Cairo, Ohio—$7,000.

CINCINNATI, December 19.—The *Commercial's* Lima, Ohio, special says Hoopster's large warehouse at West Cairo was burned last night. The railroad and elevator Company's grain and Hose Company I responded. It appears that the basement of the building is occupied by the janitor of the church, and from the cooking-stove pipe used by the family the wood-work caught fire. The flames had spread some before discovery, and the firemen found it necessary to throw water. This caused some damage in addition to that from the fire, but the loss will not exceed $100. The little black dog owned by the Relief Company was run over and killed by the Niagara Hose carriage.

Auburndale, Mass.—$49,000.

BOSTON, December 19.—The residence of Hon. E. D. Winslow, at Auburndale, was burned last night. Loss on the building, $24,000 on furniture, paintings and library, $25,000. Total insurance $37,000.

Cleveland—$25,000.

CLEVELAND, December 19.—A fire on Oliver street, last night, destroyed the broom and brush factory of W. Broderick & Co., the wholesale liquor store of Joseph Mellor, and the mail supply room of G. R. Hayward. Broderick & Co.'s loss is $5,000; insured. Hayward's loss is $5,000; insured. Mellor's loss is $5,000; insured for $9,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The Embarrassed Eastern Company.

BOSTON, Mass., December 18.—A large meeting of bondholders of the Eastern Railroad was held here to-day to see what could be done to help them out of its present financial troubles. Baring Brothers submitted a plan for mortgaging the road for $14,000,000, but it was not favorably received, nor was the proposition for a receiver. Another committee on the part of the bondholders to confer with the directors was appointed. The proposition to appoint trustees to manage the road is considered most feasible.

DETECTION.

Three Thieves Arrested by Officer O'Mara.

Through the creditable exertions of Officer O'Mara of the Mayor's Detective force three thieves were arrested yesterday, and placed in the lock-up; while such evidence has been gathered as will likely rid the community of them for some time to come. O'Mara had suspected for some time a young man named Andrew Rudiger and had been keeping sharp look after him. Enough was gathered to satisfy the officer and the arrest was made as stated. On the person of Rudiger was found a small amount of stolen jewelry. During the watch on this man the officer discovered two other and similar characters whom he also nabbed. With them he found a jimmy and an augur. They were evidently fitted out for mischief. They both gave fictitious names and one of them admitted that they had just been released from prison.

Fire In a Church.

Shortly after three o'clock yesterday afternoon fire was discovered in the brick church building on Arthur street, Eleventh ward, occupied by the Presbyterian congregation of colored people. An alarm was given from box 54, and engine companies 4 and 5, Hook and Ladder Company 2, and Hose Company 1 responded. It appears that the basement of the building is occupied by the janitor of the church, and from the cooking-stove pipe used by the family the wood-work caught fire. The flames had spread some before discovery, and the firemen found it necessary to throw water. This caused some damage in addition to that from the fire, but the loss will not exceed $100.

The little black dog owned by the Relief Company was run over and killed by the Niagara Hose carriage.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Malacca.

THE BRITISH TROOPS UNOPPOSED.

LONDON, December 18.—Sir William Jervois, the Governor of the Straits Settlement, telegraphs to the War Office here, under date of Penang, December 17: "The troops are now going up to Perak unopposed. At every place the white flag is hoisted. The rebels retreated to Kinta by a jungle path. The troops are pursuing, but with what result is unknown."

Italy.

INTEREST IN THE CENTENNIAL.

ROME, December 18.—The Committee on the American Centennial Exhibition have received six hundred applications for space in the Italian department. The larger part of the exhibitors will send works of art.

England.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION FOR HORSHAM.

LONDON, December 18.—Yesterday an election occurred for member of Parliament for Horsham, Sussex, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sir W. R. V. Seymour Fitzgerald, appointed Chief Commissioner of Charities. The candidates were Major John B. Aldridge, Conservative; Robert Henry Hurst, Liberal, and Mr. Worth, Conservative workingmen's candidate. Mr. Hurst was elected. Mr. Hurst, who is the Recorder of Hastings, was elected over Sir W. R. V. Seymour Fitzgerald at the general election in 1868, but beaten by him in 1874.

THE SALIER AT SOUTHAMPTON—HER CARGO EXAMINED—SIXTY DEUTSCHLAND SURVIVORS TAKE PASSAGE FOR NEW YORK.

SOUTHAMPTON, December 19.—The steamer Salier, which replaced the Mosel, took on board here sixty of the passengers saved from the Deutschland, and sailed for New York. The authorities of this port took every precaution to insure public safety while the Salier remained at the docks, and the German Consul assured the passengers that the steamer's entire cargo had been most rigidly examined.

LATEST INFORMATION OF THE DYNAMITE PLOT.

LONDON, December 19.—A Berlin telegram in the *Times* says Thompson's real name was Alexander, and that he was well connected in New York.

The owners of the blockade runner Old Dominion, in a letter to the press state that the captain of that ship, at the time Thompson is alleged to have been in command, was an Englishman.

The *Times* says a strict search has been made and shows Thompson's assertion that his over-insured goods were to be shipped at Southampton, is unfounded. No such suspicious insurances had been effected.

A report published by the Bremerhaven *Zeitung*, that another of Thompson's infernal machines was on board the Salier, proves without foundation. In addition to the thorough search of her hold and cargo at Bremerhaven, before the Salier left that port, a German detective carefully examined her French and English freight, and the ship was at Southampton, and found nothing dangerous on board.

France.

MORE SENATORS ELECTED.

VERSAILLES, December 18.—M. Wallon, Minister of Public Instruction, and Mgr. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, were elected Senators to-day by the Assembly.

REPORTS OF CABINET CRISIS PREMATURE.

LONDON, December 20.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that the reports of a Cabinet crisis and ministerial resignations are premature.

Marine News.

ANTWERP, December 18.—The steamship Vanderland, which went aground near this city yesterday, has got off and proceeded.

QUEENSTOWN, December 19.—Arrived—City of Berlin, from New York, and Pennsylvania, from Philadelphia.

QUEENSTOWN, December 19.—The Ville de Brest, with L'Amerique in tow, has arrived.

MONTREAL.

Four of the Bread Rioters in Prison.

MONTREAL, December 18.—The Recorder sentenced four of the rioters, at the City Hall, this morning, to six months' imprisonment each at hard labor. The police are kept on guard and the destitute workingmen are prevented from gathering in large crowds. Work is promised some of them on Monday.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—A MAN THOROUGHLY experienced in the construction of Coke Ovens and the manufacture of Coke, for a large Iron Works in Canada. Address, stating experience, references, and wages expected, R. M., care of WILLIAM D. MARKS & Co., Coal and Iron Merchant, 111 Broadway, New York.

REWARD.

$20 REWARD—LOST SATURDAY morning, on Fifth avenue, between Cherry avenue and Soho, Plain Gold Ring. The finder can get the above reward by leaving the same at this office.

MONEY TO LOAN.

ABOUT $20,000 TO LOAN ON BOND and mortgage, for two years. Also, two mortgages $10,000 each, on city improved property, undoubted security. Address Box 783. Communications strictly confidential. H

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—A HANDSOME BRICK Dwelling House, on Cliff street. Parlors, Dining Room and Kitchen on first floor; Gas, Hot and Cold Water. 3 Bedrooms and finished Attic, Water and modern improvements. A lot extending from street to street. Will be rented reasonable. Possession given immediately. For particulars apply to WM. EVANS, Commercial office.

FOR RENT OR SALE—NEW TWO-STORY Frame House, with Bay Window, containing 6 Rooms, Vestibule and Hall, Summer Kitchen; Lot 45x200, with Grapevines, &c., located on Brandywine avenue, Mount Washington, Thirty-fifth ward, commanding the finest view in the city. Rent moderate to a good tenant. For particulars, &c., apply to E. ABEL, Commercial office.

FOR RENT—DWELLINGS—THE Three-story Brick Dwelling House, No. 152 Center avenue, containing 9 large Rooms, with Gas and Water and good yard. House in best of order throughout. Apply at 154 Center avenue. Also, two Dwellings on Center avenue, each of 5 Rooms, finished similar and good cellar, both in first rate order. Rent, $20 00 per month. Apply as above.

ELECTION NOTICES.

☞ PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK—An Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at its Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 1 P. M.

F. M. GORDON, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 11, 1875.

☞ IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at its Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 1 P. M.

GEO. R. DUNCAN, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 11, 1875.

☞ GERMAN NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PA.—ELECTION.—The Annual Election for nine Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.

JOS. LAURENT, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1875.

☞ DIAMOND NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH—The Annual Election of Directors for this Bank will be held at the Banking House, TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 1 P. M.

JOHN S. SCULLY, Cashier.

December 13, 1875.

☞ FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BIRMINGHAM.—Pursuant Election for Seven Directors of this Bank, to be held at the Bank on TUESDAY, January 11th, 1876, between the hours of 9 and 4 o'clock, P. M.

JOHN P. BEECH, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, South Side, December 11, 1875.

☞ ELECTION.—THIRD NATIONAL BANK.—The Annual election for Nine Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11th, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

W. STEINMEYER, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 11, 1875.

☞ ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK.—An Election of Directors, to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1876, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

W. McCANDLESS, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 11, 1875.

☞ FOURTH NATIONAL BANK.—ELECTION.—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, No. 56 Fourth av

The Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1875.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $680,695.

A DEMOCRATIC "Statesman" was sold at auction at Columbus, Ohio, the other day. It was a newspaper of that name.

LAMAR says that "the South extends its hand to the North." Perhaps: but it isn't the palm, it is the knuckles.

THE lower branch of Congress, taking a hint from one of HAYS' poems, is going to "resolute till the cows come home."

THERE is a rare chance for some member of Congress to win immortal fame by pounding Loquacious LAMAR into silence.

IT IS with a feeling of intense relief that the Democratic leaders at Washington see the approach of the holiday adjournment. They are still groping in the dark for a "policy."

THE Democracy having come into power, and having issued orders for Union soldiers to strike their tents and march out of the National Capitol, the wheezy flies of the *Post* squeak rejoicingly.

RENTALS are everywhere lessening. In New York city a number of three year leases which expire at the end of the year have been replaced at a reduction of from thirty to thirty-five per cent.

A STRONG revulsion of feeling is evidently taking place in reference to the decision of the Supreme Court in the Union Pacific Railroad case. The subject should be investigated by Congress, and with as little delay as possible.

THE result of the Boston election was to triumphantly elect the four women to the School Board who were nominated by the Republicans. One was at the top of the poll and goes in for three years; two for two years; and one for one year.

BISHOP HAVEN admits that he didn't vote the Republican ticket in 1872, but cast his ballot for Judge BLACK, the Prohibitory candidate for President. This being so, it is the very sublimity of impudence in him to assume to speak for or advise the Republican party.

THE comparative statement, just published, of our imports during the last two fiscal years, shows that the total imports in in 1873–74 were valued at $503,039,054, while in 1874–5 they were valued at $543,-694,767, a decrease of $40,940,284 during the last as compared with the previous year.

THE total number of legal voters in Boston is 68,060; but of these only 39,843 are on the voting lists, and at the late election for Mayor only 26,474 cast their votes. This is little over half of the voters think enough of their right to claim the right of registry, and but two-thirds of these can be got to the polls.

NEW YORK city on Saturday organized a society for the purpose of "securing better laws, honest, efficient administration of the city government, a reduction of taxes and the city debt." The real trouble with municipal administrations, however, is not so much the laws as the lack of faithful men to see that they are properly executed.

GENERAL WHIPPER, the recently elected Judge of the First Judicial District of South Carolina, is the first black Circuit Judge elected in that State. His circuit embraces the city of Charleston, in which reside some of the ablest and most refined members of the old bar of the State. Judge WHIPPER is a good and sound lawyer and an honest and impartial man.

PRESIDENT GRANT is in a very good state of health, but Democratic Congressmen are discussing the question who would succeed to the Presidency in the event of his death before the expiration of his term of office, and they have come to the conclusion that Speaker KERR is the man. What is that for unkindness of this speculative raid upon the White House? Isn't WILKES BOOTH dead?

IT IS estimated that, if the throng of travel from all parts of the country should be as great as that anticipated by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as likely to come through New York city alone, there will be an increase in the railroad travel next summer to the extent of at least 3,-000,000 persons, thus putting into circulation at least $60,000,000 more money than there would be without the Centennial.

WE HAVE already had several specimen bricks of the kind of work the Democrats intend to turn out in Congress. The first is the proposition of a Tennessee Democrat to restore the Franking privilege; and another is the proposition of Senator MERRIMON to repeal the act which prohibits the payment of pensions to disloyal men. The party *will* show its real spirit in spite of caucus and all other devices of party management.

OUR exports of cotton goods to England are beginning to loom up. The October statement of the Bureau of Statistics shows that the exports of uncolored muslins for that month amounted to 1,728,219 yards, valued at $82,610; and of colored 762,856 yards, valued at $80,518. The goods are pronounced by the English as of an unrivaled quality, and they sell rapidly. They have advanced one and a half cents per yard since the exportation has commenced.

THE United States Circuit Court of New York the other day decided, upon a motion by counsel in a certain case to apply the United States test oath to jurors, that the amnesty proclamation of the President under date of December 25, 1868, restored all the civil rights of those comprehended within its terms; and that the requirement of a test oath is in the nature of a punishment for acts thus fully pardoned. The administration of the oath was therefore denied.

THE Commissioner of Internal Revenue has just decided that when a court, under the authority of section 3,339 of Revised Statutes, releases a seized distillery to an intervenor, the fact that taxes are due on spirits manufactured at the distillery by a former occupant and removed without being deposited in a bonded warehouse, as required by law, will not be taken as a ground for refusing to permit the intervenor to operate the distillery during the pending of the proceedings for forfeiture.

DURING the discussion of the Louisiana question in the Senate, THURMAN, BAYARD and other Democratic Senators, insisted that the Senate *could go* behind the action of a Legislature, of a Returning Board, of a Governor, and examine into everything that was done by Republicans; but now in Mississippi, the Democrats having triumphed, these same men have discovered that the Federal Constitution has estopped all such inquiries. Senator MORTON pointed out this discrepancy to Mr. THURMAN, the other day, but that Senator had cheek enough to say, like another over-cunning gentleman once caught in the same way, that "circumstances alter cases."

"I FOUGHT for the preservation of the Union for four years and lost my health in the weary march and picket watch, and my arm on the field of terrible carnage. I have now been driven from my only source of support—my position at the Capitol—and a man who fought four years to destroy the Union, who lost his health and leg in the contest, has been given my place."

This is the complaint of a brave soldier who has been turned out of a place in the House of Representatives by the rebel majority of its members. It is one to which the people will listen, too; and we are sure the loyal voters of the country will never submit to such treatment of our national heroes. It is a poor country in which patriotism grows to be a political offense.

"Nobody objects to the principle involved in Blaine's amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in relation to the establishment of religion and the school fund, as the States have already provided all the needful guarantees."—*Post.*

There are in the Union thirty-eight States. Of these but ten have provided by constitutional law against sectarian division of the public school funds. They are, Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Wisconsin. These are all the States which are positive in prohibiting a sectarian division of the school funds. Two or three other States, however, do so by provisions which do not relate to schools. A still smaller number of States prohibit sectarian teachings in their schools, and only a portion of the States provide for the maintenance of efficient and sufficient public school systems. The majority of them have by no means done their full duty toward guarding and perpetuating these basic pillars of the Republic. The *Post* will have to try again.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

Governor TILDEN'S Commission to frame a uniform system of city government for the cities of the State of New York has met and organized, and the papers are full of suggestions to its members as to what is wanted. One dreamer wants cumulative suffrage as a cure for all municipal evils, forgetting that the bad voters, under such a system, can cumulate their votes as well as the good voters, so that the result would be the same as under the present method. Another wants to limit the suffrage to property holders, and a third would make all non-property men ineligible to municipal offices. These are but specimens of numerous suggestions, and all of them are partial and empirical. None of them goes to the root of the real difficulty in municipal affairs, and there will be no deliverance from municipal corruption and extravagance until we get down to their radical cause.

That cause is to be found in the ease with which municipal debt can be contracted, and the only sure way out of existing troubles is a constitutional amendment prohibiting any further increase or creation of municipal debt. That, and the Worthington law of Ohio, which prohibits municipalities from appropriating money to any object which is not actually levied and in course of collection, would bring the Councils of every city and borough down to two certainties from which they could not escape. First, being unable to borrow or to run in debt, they would have to raise by taxation all the money spent by them; and second, they would have to be sure of their revenue before appropriating it. If, along with these checks, there was a legislative limit to the rate of taxation, the restraints would be sufficient to secure a reasonable degree of economy.

There is never much danger of corruption or extravagance where all the money spent has to be raised by direct taxation of the people. Councilmen are elected by the people, and always have a wholesome dread of offending their constituents. Taxation reaches into nearly every household in a community, and makes itself felt so palpably that Councilmen dare not, if they would maintain their places, levy more taxes than are absolutely necessary. The government of a city would, in this way, be brought right home to the people, and they would be made to feel its effects so directly that they would be compelled to take an active interest in city affairs, and see that none but trusty men were put in places of power. The inability to incur debt, and to make appropriations for which no levy has been laid, would consequently cut off all temptations to extravagance, and would naturally put obstacles in the way of corruption that would be practically insurmountable. Corruption and extravagance go together. Destroy extravagance and the other is destroyed with it.

The ease with which municipalities have been enabled to incur debt, heretofore and now, is the source of nearly all the troubles which have overtaken our cities. There would have been no TWEED in New York if it had not been for the facility the charter of that city afforded for issuing bonds; nor would it, to-day, be tortured with financial misery if it were not for the ease with which real estate speculators induce its legislators to order street improvements and pay for them with evidences of city indebtedness. If the Councils of New York and Philadelphia had to raise, by direct taxation, all the money they spend, they would not spend it so freely. The power to create debt has been the bane and the curse of both, as we all know, nearly every other city in the country; and it will continue to be so until a constitutional prohibition is interposed to prevent it.

If Mr. TILDEN'S Commission, then, will address themselves to the task of rooting out this primary cause of municipal trouble, they will accomplish more by that one stroke, than they will by listening for a year to come to the fanciful schemes of dreamers or the empirical remedies of political charlatans. The difficulty is a radical one, not one of details; and so long as the power to incur debt is left in the hands of municipal legislators, the very best men that can be selected for Councilmen will be tempted to use and abuse it. The remedy is in removing the temptation, not in hunting for men who may be considered superior to it. Angelic wisdom is not to be looked for in merely human affairs, and it is safer to root out an evil tendency than to trust to any possible methods of resisting it. "Pay as you go," and "spend only the money you have," are the two sure rules for municipal safety; and nearly all else will prove to be surplusage.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette*, of the 14th inst., contained the following editorial announcement; double leaded, to give it prominence:

It is stated on good authority that President Grant is not a candidate for re-election, and would not, under any circumstances, accept a nomination. He does not care to say so formally for reasons that the public will appreciate when they recollect how persistently he has been charged with seeking a third term; but he is not in the field, and the tongue of slander should now be silent. General Grant, upon the termination of his present term of office, will retire to private life, and he will be all the more respected by his countrymen for having set at rest this fruitful question. The President, the Republican party and the country are to be congratulated upon the decision that has been reached.

Who is this "good authority?" And why could not the President say so himself, and so put an end to all doubt on the subject? The President did not hesitate, when the Pennsylvania Republican Convention of 1875 passed a resolution on that question, to write a letter to general HARRY WHITE about it. He was not restrained, *then*, by any of the reasons stated above, from saying formally what his position was, and why should he be restrained *now?* It is a great deal better to say what he means, himself, than to say it through others, indirectly, especially when no one knows upon whose authority the statement is made. The nameless authority cited by the Cincinnati *Gazette* may be "good" in *its* judgment; but the public want to know more about it before putting implicit faith in it.

We may be asked why, if the President expressed his purpose in his letter to General WHITE, we insist upon any other expression of his purpose, and we answer, it is because that letter left open a contingency in the occurrence of which he reserved to himself the privilege of accepting a third nomination. He left the matter in doubt and uncertainty, and if he now intends to be understood as declining absolutely, without any contingency or reservation, he is just as free to write another letter to HARRY WHITE to that effect as he was to write the first one. We recognize no "authority" to speak for him as being "good" so long as he is free to speak for himself.

THE New York *Herald* proposes, as a means of securing the support of both parties to RANDALL'S amendment, limiting the Presidency to one term of six years, that the amendment should also contain a provision postponing the next Presidential election from 1876 to 1878. This would have the effect of extending the present term of the President from four to six years.

The *Herald* argues that this concession to the President would satisfy him, and leave his friends free to support the one-term amendment. It might have that effect, and Republicans certainly could have no good reasons for objecting to an extension of the present term of the President: but it is not at all necessary. If the Democrats of the House tender it the Republicans cannot object to it; but, as the one-term amendment of Mr. RANDALL is right in itself, the Republicans can have no good excuse for voting against it, even if this proposed concession is withheld.

We are anxious to see Mr. RANDALL'S amendment adopted, or some other of similar purport, because the public safety requires it, and we see no need for exacting any price for it; but the Democrats who control the House can, if they choose, couple this arrangement with it.

THE hue and cry got up against President GRANT by the Democrats because he appointed a few relatives to office, should have been sufficient to keep that party from the practise of Nepotism, whenever it chanced to get into power. Yet it has not had that effect. The Democratic Auditor General of Pennsylvania has no less than *three* of his relatives in the office with him drawing pay from the State; and in the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington we find its officers putting their relatives into place with as much freedom as if they had never howled "Nepotism!" at the President. The Clerk of the House, Mr. ADAMS, of Kentucky, has put his uncle into a $4,000 place under him; and, in the list of appointments made by FITZHUGH, the rebel Doorkeeper of that body, we find another FITZHUGH, who is presumably a relative of the Doorkeeper. We submit that men who rush thus into Nepotism on the first opportunity should feel enough shame at their own inconsistency to impel them to take back all the hard things they have said, in the last seven years, against the President's appointment of relatives to place.

ENGLAND is apparently going to grass. THOMAS C. SCOTT, the leading grain statistician of that country and of Europe, is out with a proposition for the discontinuance of wheat culture. He holds that the changes effected by modern science have rendered the production of wheat the most expensive and unprofitable crop in England, and that it can be imported at a much lower price than it can be raised at home. He maintains that the true policy is to devote arable lands to grass, and limit themselves to the production of cattle; showing that the wet, cold weather that prevails there renders wheat the most precarious of crops, while these drawbacks are actually conducive to the policy which he recommends. The average annual wheat deficiency of England is estimated at 96,000,000 bushels, and Mr. SCOTT thinks that this deficiency or the greater portion of it may be obtained from the United States. What is true of England may also probably be regarded as true of the other European nations, though in a lesser degree, since labor and land are of more value in England than in any other country.

NEW HAMPSHIRE leads off in the elections of the Centennial year. The people of that State have, from present indications, already had quite enough of Democratic rule, brief as it has been. The recent gerrymander and Senate stealing are having their effect. Recently the city of Dover rebuked the dishonesty by a sweeping Republican victory, and now Keene follows suit. Last year the Democracy nominated Hon. HENRY COLONY for Mayor, one of the most popular men of the party in the State, and he was elected by a flattering majority, but on Thursday, at the municipal election, the Republican candidate defeated him by 277 majority, and four out of the five wards elected Republican officers. COLONY'S defeat is significant in more than one particular. His name had been prominently mentioned in connection with the Governorship, as a compromise candidate; but now he has dwindled into political insignificance. The State election next March will finish up the business for the New Hampshire Bourbons.

A DECISION has just been rendered in the United States Circuit Court of New York which, as settling a rule of practice in United States Courts, is of importance to the legal profession everywhere. The New York *Herald* thus summarises the case:

"It was in the suit of Edwin M. Lewis, trustee in bankruptcy of the estate of J. Cooke & Co., vs. Jay Gould, Henry N. Smith, H. Martin and John H. Bach, an action brought to recover $300,000 in gold, upon an alleged contract made in 1869 to deliver that amount at a certain time. A stipulation was filed to the answer of the defendants, when the latter made a motion that this be set aside, on the ground that such pleadings were now authorized by law. It was claimed that by section 914 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, practice in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States was made to conform with that in the Courts of Record of the States in which the former was held. Judge Johnson, in granting the motion, decided that in the State Courts such pleadings are unknown, and cannot, therefore, be admitted in this Circuit Court."

THE Democrats in Congress say they are going to pass BLAINE'S school amendment to the Constitution which proposes "that no State shall make any law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that no money raised by taxation in any State for the support of the public schools, or derived from any public funds therefor, or any public lands devoted thereto, shall ever be under the control of any religious sect, and that no money or land so devoted shall be divided among religious sects or denominations," and so take this question out of politics. All right, gentlemen; go ahead. You cannot spite us, any, if you do, and you will spite yourselves if you do not.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Bradlaughs over a legacy of $140,000, just left him.

"Nomination by prayer." Election by doxology.

Tweed went away in a hack, and Oakey Hall has gone on the stage.

Christmas week. The austerity of the weather need'nt make you austere.

An aged joke. There is an old maid out in Indiana who claims to be vergin' on 120 years.

This the children's week, just between the dark of the old year and the daylight of the new.

The latest from the Keely humbug is to he effect that it will be ready for a demonstration by spring.

Vesuvius, after a long period of rest, is giving unmistakable signs of another approaching eruption.

Ugh! The access of the cold season is also attended by a revival of Plymouth Church literature.

Did you say you were sorry times are so hard that you can only "do" for your own children this Christmas?

If there be "safety in a multitude of counsellors," Brooklyn ought to be about the safest of all places on earth.

Governor Howard, of Rhode Island, suggests a "public economy league." Yes, but how hard to put it into operation.

Neither Grant, nor any of "the Grant group," can be elected, is the ground taken by *Harper's Weekly*, and it is correct.

Remember, at least this week, that the child's grief throbs against the round of its little heart as heavily as the man's sorrow.

This is Christmas week. Blessed be the hand that prepares pleasure for a child, for there is no saying where it will bloom forth.

The direct cable people think their wires to England were cut on purpose, and offer $5,000 reward for fishing out those who did it.

Thus sings the Detroit *Post:* "If Longfellow should be elected President, it would be idyl to claim that he ode his election to his poetry."

Not less than one hundred thousand bushels of grain will go forward by the American steamers from Philadelphia next month.

The Massachusetts census shows that two-thirds of the population of Boston are foreigners, and the blue blood of the Hub looks its color.

There is a large quantity of oilcake on hand in the factories of New Orleans, which cannot be shipped to Europe on account of the high rate of freights.

"The notorious Tom Collins was discharged from Auburn the other day," says a New York paper. Thought he was editing the Pittsburgh *Post*.

What with newspaper prods and advice from brother preachers, that politically-inclined Methodist Bishop finds himself in a Haven of unrest, generally.

The new year is at hand. It's about time people were getting ready to dump their badness and back up and load with good resolves for another year.

St. Louis will not enjoy the holidays. No sooner does an armistice of whisky prosecutions begin there, than a four-million gas-ring comes to the front

Some 20,000 volumes are said to have been stolen from the San Francisco mercantile library during the past year, and the question is who booked 'em?

When you buy the toys, the candy and the nuts for your own during the children's week, don't forget the motherless, or worse than motherless, please.

"And the spirit said, write." One million four hundred and nineteen thousand postal cards ordered on Saturday last shows the great popularity of the new cards.

Cum grano. Michigan has this year yielded a salt product of 200,000 barrels greater than that of the most successful of previous years, the total being 1,026,978 barrels.

There is a smell of villainous saltpetre in the air in Lower California. For some days past armed men have been gathering on the border, and the indications are that a new revolution is on foot.

By some strange combination of circumstances the manufacture of marmalade has heretofore been confined almost exclusively to Scotland, but Florida is now going into the business, and can supply the world, if she chooses.

PERSONAL.

Blondin lately walked on a rope from mast to mast of a ship, the distance being 431 feet, and several times he was compelled to stand still while the waves rocked the vessel.

Spread of American ideas. It is estimated that there are fully fourteen hundred young men from the United States pursuing their studies at the universities and colleges of Germany.

Few remember that Oliver Wendell Holmes began life as a law student, and not many more know that Lowell did the same thing and was actually admitted to the bar and opened an office in Boston.

An Iowa woman the other day gave birth to a perfectly-formed female child, which weighed less than eight ounces. It is doing well. Its father weighs 175 pounds; its mother is of medium size. A previous child of the same parents weighed eleven pounds.

The identification of the murderer in the awful tragedy in East New York may be made to turn somewhat on Nathan Rubenstein's midnight exclamation: "Oh, horror! Sarah lies murdered ten miles away from New York. I saw her appeal to me in a dream to come and bury her." If this should be presented as proof of his guilt, the question of clairvoyance, clairaudience and provision might come up in court and witnesses be summoned to prove a cognizance of distant events is sometimes possible without actual participation.

Here is the story of it. Disraeli was dining with Baron Rothschild when a telegram from Paris was brought to the Baron announcing that the Khedive had offered his shares in the Suez Canal for sale to the French government, and that the parties were at that moment haggling about the price. The English premier suddenly raised his head and said: "What is the price?" The Baron immediately telegraphed for the desired information to Paris, and the answer came back in a few minutes, "Four millions sterling." "We will take them," said Disraeli, without a moment's hesitation, and from thence the matter became one merely of detail.

An anecdote, the first recorded of a youth who, if he lives, is likely to a long train of them attached to his name, is told of Prince Albert Victor, eldest son of the Prince of Wales. When lately crossing the Solent with his brothers and sisters, the Prince observed that the usual flag indicative of the presence of royalty on board was not flying. Inquiring the reason he was told that the flag was of silk, and the weather being very dirty they did not think it worth while to expose it. The Prince replied that no matter what the weather was the flag ought to be hoisted when any member of the royal family was on board, and desired that this might be done immediately.

The French and other foreign aid furnished us to carry on our War of Independence is popularly supposed not to have been compensated for, but the New York *World* shows that beside the $11,250,-000 we paid for Louisiana, we paid in liquidation of our foreign revolutionary obligations the following sums:

French farmers general loan	$ 153,688 80
French loan of 18,000,000 livres	3,267,000 00
French loan of 1781	1,702,017 78
French 10,000,000 livres loan	1,815,000 00
French 6,000,000 loan	1,080,000 00
Balance of supplies due France	34,332 80
Dutch loan (5,000,000 florins) of 1782	2,000,000 00
Dutch loan of 1784	800,000 00
Debt due foreign officers	180,988 78
Interest on foreign loans	1,771,466 90
In all	$11,695,555 78

A Health-Promoting Stimulant.

Physicians, who certainly ought to be the best judges of such matters, declare that a wholesome stimulation is not only desirable but essential in many instances. When the temporary good effect of a sound stimulant is confirmed and rendered permanent, as in the case of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, by the action of tonic and alterative properties combined with it, it becomes infinitely more efficacious as a removant of physical energy and a corrector of those conditions of the body which invite disease. The Bitters have received the highest sanction of medicament who have observed the effect of that popular stimulative cordial as a remedy for weakness, nervousness, dyspepsia, constipation, inactivity of the liver, malarious fevers, and many other disorders. Its basis is sound old rye, the purest liquor known to commerce, and itself possessing tonic properties of no mean order.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Has never been known to fail in the cure of weakness connected with symptoms, indigestion, loss of action, loss of memory, difficulty of breathing, sick headache, horror of disease, weak nervous trembling, dreadful dreams, universal debility, cold feet, weakness, dimness of vision, languor, unnatural shrinking of the limbs, loss of muscular power, appetite, with dyspeptic system, hot hands, flushing of the body, dryness of the skin, pain in the back, eruptions on the face, purifying the blood, pain in the back, disease of the urinary system, frequent blotch spots flying before the eyes with temporary suffusion and loss of sight, want of attention, these and many symptoms all arise from a weakness, and to remedy that we say Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. It never fails. Thousands are now enjoying health who have used it. Get the genuine. Sold in quart bottles. Take only E. F. Kunkel's. Depot and Office, 230 North Tenth street, Philadelphia, Pa. Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. Take only valuable tonic has been so thoroughly tested by all classes of the community. It is a true and indispensable as a Tonic medicine. It costs but little, purifies the blood, and gives health. Be sure and investigate the system and prolong life.

If how only take a trial of this valuable tonic. Price $1 per bottle. E. F. KUNKLE, Sole Proprietor, No. 229 North Ninth street, below Vine, Philadelphia, Pa. Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron, and take no other. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron will photograph of the proprietor on each wrapper, all others counterfeit. Sold by all druggists.

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Head and all complete in two hours. No fee till head passes. Send Plain Stamped Envelope to Dr. KUNKEL, 259 North Ninth street, Advice free. No fee until cured. Ask for Dr. KUNKEL'S TAPE WORM. Price $1, and guaranteed. Send for circular. MWF

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JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

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CHARTERED IN 1869.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to October 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. per annum on the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not left on deposit six months, is added to the principal and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
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Boys' Overcoats,	$8, worth	12 00
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Men's Suits,	$10, worth	15 00
Men's Suits,	$16, worth	24 00
Boys' Suits,	$2, worth	3 00
Boys' Suits,	$3 50, worth	5 00
Boys' Suits,	$5, worth	7 50
Boys' Suits,	$7, worth	10 00
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HATS, CAPS and FURS,
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THE FIRST VOLUME OF ST. NICHOLAS was a surprise even to the public that had heartily welcomed it, number by number. Newspaper critics expressed enthusiastic approval; children and parents were alike delighted, and congratulatory letters from distinguished men and women poured in upon the publishers and editor. CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER wrote: "I do not see how it can be made any better, and if children don't like it, it is time to change the kind of children in this country;" WHITTIER, our great poet, wrote: "It is little to say of this magazine that it is the best child's periodical in the world;" and many of its best contributors came across the ocean from such earnest workers and popular favorites of the young as GEORGE MACDONALD, CHRISTINA ROSSETTI and CANON KINGSLEY.

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Giving the adventures of a party of boys on their long journey across the plains, with a vivid portraiture of their LIFE IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE DAYS OF THE GOLD-FEVER. Mr. Brooks brings to this work, in addition to his well-known literary gifts, a thorough familiarity with the features of that wild country and the people then flocking toward it. What he has to say of them is personal with a zest and intense savor of reality that enables the reader to follow the characters in their adventures with a positive sense of companionship. The contagion of the "gold-fever;" the great difficulties and perils which beleaguered their journey across the plains and mountains, and finally the adventurous, half civilized, and yet, in a certain rude way, *poetic* life in the mines of California, are all described with wonderful truthfulness and skill. Add to this the elevated tone pervading the work, and the unmistakable distinction with which a narrative possesses for boys, and the value of this stirring, healthy serial becomes evident.

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We would also announce that, in a few days, many other importations not yet landed, we will open a very large line of
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☞ We would respectfully request o

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Have Just Opened a Large Assortment of
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FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 18, 1875.

A quiet and easy feeling marked the financial situation at the close of the week to-day, the leading features of ease and strength continuing to characterize the position of nearly all our financial institutions. The banks are taking fafr lines of paper from their customers, being able to handle about all the first-class commercial bills so offered. Some lenders were looking for outside business paper to employ their surplus funds, but the near approach of the end of the year, the probability of an increased demand for money after the new year opens, and the near vicinity of a call from the Comptroller of the Currency for a statement of condition, makes bank officers better satisfied to hold a large amount of unemployed funds than they otherwise would be. This fact, coupled with the desire to obtain only the best classes of paper, has a tendency to make it almost impossible to negotiate low grades; but the preference in all cases is given to that which is of a legitimate character as opposed to that which may be considered "accommodation paper,"—the banks, as well as all other lenders, being disposed to give this class of paper a wide berth, as a large proportion of the losses incurred for several years past have resulted from this kind of security. There is much significance in a remark of a bank officer, which we see quoted by a Boston paper. When offered a note signed by a party who has the reputation, and doubtless is, a man of large wealth, but who is in the habit of lending his name to accommodate his friends, he said "that he did not want any rich men's notes, but preferred those of parties of smaller means, engaged in strictly legitimate business, and who gave their notes only in the way of trade, avoiding all outside speculations." This class of traders are generally successful and pay their notes. In Eastern exchange, or local securities we learn of no especial news. Our New York advices report considerable dullness without much news in the Stock Exchange markets, except at decline in gold to 113¾ in anticipation of the prepayment next week of the January interest on the Government bonds without rebate. The following were the closing quotations for gold and Government securities:

	Bid. Asked		Bid. Asked
Gold	113¾ 113⅝	5-20's, '65, c m 117¼	117⅜
Currency 6's 122	122½	5-20's, '65, c n 120⅝	120⅞
6's, 1881, r	119½	5-20's, '67, r	119¾	119¾
6's, 1881, c	124½	5-20's, '67, c	124¾	124¾
5-20's, 1862, r	114¾	....	5-20's, '68, r	119¾	119¾
5-20's, 1862, c	114¾	....	5-20's, '68, c	123¾	123¾
5-20's, 1864, r	114¾	....	10-40's, r	117¾	117¾
5-20's, 1864, c	114¾	....	10-40's, c	....	118	118¼
5-20's, 1865, r	115	116	7's, 1881, r	....	117¼	117½
5-20's, 1865, c	115¾	116	7's, 1881, c	....	117¾	117½

The statement of the operations of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending to-day shows a considerable decrease in the volume of business transacted through that institution. The statement is as follows:

	Exchanges.	Balances.
Monday, December 13....	$ 818,908 95	$160,485 53
Tuesday, December 14....	605,279 90	72,989 75
Wednesday, December 15	680,376 81	67,756 58
Thursday, December 16..	613,464 29	70,564 01
Friday, December 17.....	709,533 28	95,772 85
Saturday, December 18...	579,099 60	125,736 32
Total.....	$4,007,162 23	$571,281 37
Week ending Dec. 11.....	4,896,062 60	$898,308 69
Week ending Dec. 4.....	4,695,546 60	$814,297 10
Week ending Nov. 27....	4,281,553 65	$835,633 23

—In connection with the subject of prices, the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* very cogently urges the importance of thoroughly comprehending the plain lessons of the panic—that wages, profits, rents, interest on capital and prices of all kinds (including real estate) must contract to the old level, but must continue to decline; that in the purchase of goods the only safety lies in the adoption of an exceedingly cautious, hand-to-mouth policy; that the most rigid economy must be exercised in all expenses; and that to base any calculations upon a "revival of activity" for years to come is business suicide. It is just as important that these lessons should be acted upon to-day as it was two years ago; and it will be just as important two years hence. There is every reason to believe that the great body of business men, consciously or unconsciously, have begun to conduct their affairs upon the supposition that we have entered upon an entirely new order of things, which is to continue not for a year or for five years, but for a generation at least; and were it not for this fact mercantile disasters would probably have been even more numerous than has been the case.

The way in which we are the soonest to recover the prosperity and activity of past years is to reduce cost of production. The *Bulletin* puts it in a rather extreme light, in the article already alluded to, when it says: "The ironmasters must be convinced that their trade will not be healthy till all the furnaces in the country are in blast, and that if the immense product which would result can only be absorbed by putting the price of pig down to ten dollars a ton and flooding foreign markets, then the sooner wages and other elements of cost of production are reduced one-half, to correspond with this lower price, the better it will be for the whole country." It is, however, an important fact that a slight reduction in the cost of making iron (and one which we think is practicable here), will give Pittsburgh command of half the iron markets of the world. One of the most important elements in the cost of nearly every article of merchandise at present is that of freight charges. This element is still founded upon an anti-panic basis, namely, the exaggerated nominal cost represented by the capital and debt totals of the roads. Let the business interests of the nation bend their energies to the reduction of freight charges and a shrinkage of the valuations on which these charges are based, as other values have been reduced, and the remaining steps in reducing the cost of production in our various manufactures will be few and easy.

—The New York bank statement shows a decrease in every item. There is a falling off of $1,360,400 in legal tenders, in consequence of shipments to the interior, and there is also a decrease of $433,600 in specie and $2,877,900 in loans. The liquidation in deposits amounts to $2,730,900, which is rather small, considering the falling off in other items. The reserve shows a decrease of $1,111,275, which leaves the banks with an excess of $7,066,300 above legal requirements. The following table shows the changes in the New York city banks this week, as compared with last:

	Dec. 11.	Dec. 18.	Differences.
Loans.....	$268,390,400	$265,512,500	Dec. $ 2,877,900
Specie.....	16,329,400	16,105,800	Dec. 433,600
Legals.....	19,118,300	19,026,600	Dec. 90,700
Deposits....	206,966,900	204,236,000	Dec. 2,730,900
L. tenders..	43,320,900	41,960,500	Dec. 1,360,400

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 18, 1875.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:00 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	114¼	114	113¾	113⅝	
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	119	119			
5-20's, 1865	116	116			
5-20's, 1865, new	119½	119½			
5-20's, 1867, registered	119½	119½			
5-20's, 1867	123¾	123¾			
5-20's, 1868	123¾	123¾			
10-40's	117¾	117¾			
10-40's, coupons	118	118			
Currency 6's	122	122			
New 5 per cents	117¾	117¾			
Western Union Tel	75½	76	76	75½	
Quicksilver			13		
Pacific Mail	40¾	40			39½
Panama					124½
Adams Express					102½
Wells-Fargo Ex					84
American Express					57½
New York Central	104				104
Erie	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
Michigan Central	60	60	60	60	59½
Michigan Southern	61¼	61¼	60¾	60¾	
Illinois Central		96	95¾		
Cleve., & Pittsburgh		90			
Chicago & Northwest	39¾	39¾	38¾	38¾	38¾
Do pref'red		55¾	55¾	55¾	55¾
Rock Island		104¼	104¼	104¼	104¼
St. Paul, common		35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Do preferred		65¾			65¾
Wabash, common					40¾
Fort Wayne		99½			99½
Ohio & Mississippi	16¼			16⅛	16¼
Union Pacific		75¼		75	75
Harlem		132			132
Hartford & St. Jos		25			25
Atlantic & P., pref'd		74			74
Iron Mountain		15	13½		
C., C. & I. C			4⅝		4
Missouri Pacific				11¾	11¾
South Carolinas, April		35½			
South Carolinas, July		33½			
Missouri 6's		102¾			

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	....	....	53½
Reading	....	....	49¾
United Co's of N. J	135	....	135
Oil Creek	....	....	11½
Allen's Valley	....	....	....
Allegheny Valley	....	....	35¾
Central Transportation Co	46	....	....
Empire Transportation	52	....	....
P. C. & St. L. m. B.	79	....	....

—A meeting of the creditors of Wick, Ridgeway & Co., railroad iron makers, of Youngstown, O., was held recently. The firm's statement represents their assets as $650,000, and liabilities as $300,000; cause of failure, inability of the Paris and Danville Railroad Company to pay their maturing notes, amounting to $100,000, which the firm hold. Wick, Ridgeway & Co. propose to pay about one-third in bonds of the Paris and Danville Railroad at forty cents on the dollar, and the balance in six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four months without security. The creditors appointed a committee to investigate the condition of the Paris and Danville Railroad and the value of its bonds, and the meeting adjourned for one week. The firm's works have shut down.

—There were three new national banks authorized to begin business during the week. They are the Stockgrowers' National, of Pueblo Colorado, numbered 2,310, with an authorized capital of $50,000, of which $35,099 is paid in, and with Charles R. Lamborn as president and Jefferson Raymond as cashier; the Camden National, of Camden, Maine, numbered 2,311, with an authorized capital of $50,000, of which $37,500 is paid in, with Henry Knight as president and J. E. Stetson as cashier; and the First National of Webster, of Massachusetts, numbered 2,312, with an authorized capital of $100,000, of which $90,000 is paid in, and with Chester L. certis as president and Edward L. Corbin as cashier.

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 113¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 18.—Money 4@7 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6@8 per cent. Customs receipts $890,000. Clearings $25,000,000.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 114¼, fell off to 113¾ and closed at 113⅝. Carrying rates are 1, 1¼, 2, 4, and 5 per cent.: loans also made flat. There were some sales of long gold to-day and a disposition among room speculators to sell the market in anticipation of January disbursements, hence the weakness.

The failure of Greene & Crabston, of Providence, attracted some attention, as the firm stood high. The immediate cause of failure is attributed to advances made to an arms manufacturing company, although it is believed that the firm was previously weakened by the failure of Sprague and Duncan, Sherman & Co.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government securities closed firm. Railroad bonds quiet on late afternoon dealings. Central Pacific rose to 107¾; Western Pacific brought 100 and Milwaukee and St. Paul consolidated sinking fund firm at 82. State bonds quiet and prices nominal. The stock market opened quiet with downward tendency and in the afternoon prices had declined from ¼ to 1 per cent. Towards the close the market became firmer and at clo se was active and steady. Lake Shore advanced to 61¾, and closed 61¼@61½; Northwest common reversed to 39¾ and preferred to 55; Michigan Central to 59¾; Western Union to 76¼; Union Pacific to 75¾; St. Paul to 35¾ and preferred to 65½; Pacific Mail rallied to 39¾; New York Central to 103½@103¾.

Other changes were slight. The transactions at the Stock Exchange aggregated 95,000 shares, of which 8,400 were Ohio and Mississippi, 37,400 Lake Shore, 4,400 Northwestern common, 2,200 preferred, 16,000 Pacific Mail, 10,500 Western Union, 2,800 Union Pacific and 2,600 Michigan Central.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	76	Rock Island	104½
Pacific Mail	39¾	St. Paul	35¾
Maripposa	7½	Do preferred	65¾
do preferred	8	Toledo & Wabash	41
Adams Express	103¾	Do preferred	77
Wells Fargo Ex	84	Fort Wayne	99½
American Ex	57	Terre Haute	20
United States Ex	50¾	Do preferred	40
New York Central	104	Chicago & Alton	97½
Erie	15¾	Do preferred	120½
Do preferred	31	Ohio & Mississippi	16¼
Harlem	134	Delaware & Lack	119½
Do preferred	135	Illinois Central	96
Mich. Central	59¾	Indiana Central	4
Panama	25	Hannibal & St. Jos	20½
Lake Shore	61¼	Hannibal & St. Joe. pf'd	30½
Illinois Central	96	Central Pac. bds	75
Cleve. & Pittsburgh	90	Union Pac. stock	106½
Northwestern	39¾	Do bonds	105¾
Do preferred	54¾	Do land grant	101
C., C. & I. C	3⅞	Do sink. fund	91¾ 92
N. J. Central	106¾		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	119¼	10-40's, c	117¾
5-20's, 1865	116	10-40's	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119¾	10-40's coupons	117¾
5-20's, 1867, registered	119½	Currency 6's	122½
5-20's, 1867	123¾		
5-20's, 1868	123¾		
10-40's, r	117¾		
10-40's, coupons	118		
Currency 6's	122		
New 5 per cents	117¾		
Western Union Tel	75½	76	76
Quicksilver			13
Pacific Mail	40¾	40	39½
Panama			124½
Adams Express			102½
Wells-Fargo Ex			84
American Express			57½
New York Central	104		104
Erie	15¾	15¾	15¾
Michigan Central	60	60	59½
Michigan Southern	61¼	61¼	60¾
Illinois Central	96	95¾	
Cleve., & Pittsburgh	90		
Chicago & Northwest	39¾	39¾	38¾
Do pref'red		55¾	55¾
Rock Island		104¼	104¼
St. Paul, common		35¾	35¾
Do preferred		65¾	65¾
Wabash, common			40¾
Fort Wayne		99½	99½
Ohio & Mississippi	16¼		16⅛ 16¼
Union Pacific		75¼	75
Harlem		132	
Hartford & St. Jos		25	
Atlantic & P., pref'd		74	
Iron Mountain		15	13½
C., C. & I. C			4⅝ 4
Missouri Pacific			11¾ 11¾
South Carolinas, April		35½	
South Carolinas, July		33½	
Missouri 6's		102¾	

Groceries.

The grocery trade in this wholesale and jobbing lines continued to move steadily and quietly with a rather limited volume of business and unchanged quotations. We note the arrival of 609 barrels New Orleans molasses and 10 hogsheads of New Orleans sugar by river, probably the last receipts by that route for some time to come. Coffee is steady and unchanged. The latest Rio advices are as follows: "Sales for United States since last mail, 55,000 bags; shipments to Atlantic ports, 108,000 bags; to Gulf ports, 42,000 bags; loading, 45,000 bags; stock at date, 195,000 bags; average daily receipts, 7,100 bags; price, 9¾00." This dispatch had no effect, its not being regarded as of any special significance. The stock of Rio coffee in first hands on Friday was 243,716 bags, against 46,878 bags the corresponding time last year, and 55,340 bags in 1873. Sugars are easy under the influence of a slight reduction in the East, but prices are still retained. The production of refined sugars at present is quite light, but the demand is still lighter. Tea is firm, though somewhat irregular. On this subject the *Shipping List* says: "Holders still ask full prices, but it is apparent that purchasers are not so free in taking goods, as during the past week or two. The adjournment of Congress over the holidays, without any mention having been made of 'duty,' has given a rather sluggish tone to the market. It should also be noted above, no special changes are noted, prices can scarcely be said to have varied in our last writing, and until the question is definitely settled, alternate hopes and fears are likely to rule. Receipts during the past few days has been limited, dealers having during late purchases supplied their wants for the moment, and pending stimulating advices, our market is somewhat nominal." The following are the prices current for the wholesale and jobbing trade:

Green Coffees.	₩ lb.	*Sugars.*	₩ lb.
Fancy Rio	25 c	Standard A	10¼@10⅜
Choice Rio	25 c	Standard B	10¼@10⅜
Prime Rio	24 c	Do. extra C	10¼@10⅜ c
Good Rio	23 c	Extra C—prime	9⅞ c
Java	34 c	C—yellow	8¾ c
Roasted Coffees.		Franklin, B	10¼@ c
Rio, in papers	28@29 c	Cut Loaf	12¼ c
Rio, in bulk	26@28½c	Crushed	11¼ c
Java, in papers	36 c	Powdered	11¼ c
Java, in bulk	35½c	Granulated	11½ c
Teas.		*Molasses.*	₩ gl.
Young Hyson	60@$1 00	Sugar-H. N. O. new	62
Gunpowder	50@ 1 25	Prime	60
Imperial	55@ 1 00	Good	58
Japan	55@ 1 00	*Syrups.*	
Oolong	25@ 1 00	Ex. white drips	70c
Fancy	1 00	Standard drips	65c
Souchong	25@ 85	Lower grades	35@50c
Rice.		*Starch.*	₩ lb.
Choice Carolina	7¾@8 c	Pearl	6¾@7 c
Patna	7¾@8 c	Silver gloss	9½ c
Rangoon	7¼@7½c	Corn	10¼ c
Louisiana	7 c	*Soaps.*	
Spices.		Irish soap, ₩ box	$4 25
Cloves	60 c	Castile, ₩ lb	8 c
Alspice	18@19 c	Babbitt's best, 30's	6 c
Cassia	20@23 c	Do. N. Y. 30's	6 c
Nutmegs	$1 50	Germania, mottled 60's	4½ c
Pepper	25 c	*Soda.*	
Candles.		Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c
Star, full weight	18 c	Bi-carb, in ½ lb pkgs	5½ c
Stearine	16 c	Bi-carb, in ¼ papers	7 c
Adamantine	11@12 c		

TOBACCOS—A moderate movement continues in the manufactured line of trade, without quotable change in values. We quote as follows:

Manufactured—		Six Twist	43@55c
Spun roll	60@63c	Nailrod—Extra	50@55c
Black Navy	55@63c	Do. ordinary	50@55c
Black Tens	57@60c	*Leaf Tobacco—*	
Louisville Navy	58@60c	Ohio wrappers	15@20c
Louisville Cav	67@70c	Ohio seed leaf—lugs	9@12c
Virginia Navy	58@60c	Ohio seed leaf—fine	13@15c
Virginia Tens	58@60c	Ohio seed wrap'r	18@22c
Virginia Cav	58@60c	Ohio seed filler	9@12c
Double Thick	52@55c	Conn. (choice)	50c
Flounders	53@55c	Conn. wrapper	60@70c
Bright pounds	65c@71	Conn. filler	12@18c
Black Quarters	52@55c	Havana wrap'r	125@2 50
Long Tens	52@55c	Havana filler	30@40c
Ready Rough	45@50c	Havana fair	50@75c
Fine Cut plugs	70@80c	Havana fine	$1 25
Fine Cut	55@60c	Penn's seed	15@ 2
Medium Fine Cut	42c	Connecticut	20@ 3
Smith's Snuff	60@65c	Seed & Havana	25@ 3
Black Snuff	50@55c	Spanish	50c@$1

FISH—A steady trade at firm prices is noted in fish, with a good demand. We present the following revised list of quotations:

	Per bbl.		Per bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess mackerel	$34 00	Labrador herring, spiff	$ 5 50
No. 1 mess do	32 00	Round do	6 50
Ex. No. 1 shore do	28 00	Lake herring	4 50
No. 1 shore do	25 00	Large cod fish	6c
Ex. No. 1 bay do	22 00	codfish, ₩ lb	6½c
No. 1 bay do	19 00	Medium do	6 c
Ex. No. 2 do	16 00	Boneless codfish	7 c
No. 2 do	15 00	do	7 c
Large No. 3 do	11 00	Halibut do	14@15 c
Whitefish	5 75	No. 1 herring, ₩ box	40 c
Smoked bloat, ₩ do	2 00	Scaled herring, do	50 c

CANNED GOODS—There is a fairly active business at unchanged prices. We quote: Tomatoes, 2-lb cans, $1 60; peaches, 2-lb cans, ₩ doz, $2 25@2 50; corn, 2-lb cans, ₩ doz, $2 00; lima beans, 2-lb cans, ₩ doz, string beans, 2-lb cans $1 50; cherries, 2-lb cans $2 25@2 50; blackberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; pineapples, 2-lb cans $2 25@2 50; damsons, 2-lb cans $2 00; green gages, 2-lb cans $2 25; pineapples, 3-lb cans $2 50@3 00; pickles, ₩ doz quart do $2 25; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, ₩ doz, $5 50; bulk containing 1,500 pickles, $18; bulk containing 3,000 pickles, $4 75.

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a fairly active business at unchanged prices. We quote: Raisins—Layers, new ₩ box, $3 25; London layers do $4 75; Valentias new, 15@16c; Sultanas 22@25c; Malagas 25@28c ₩ lb. Currants—New 8c. Citron 28c. Prunes 8@9c. Almonds—Languedoc 25c; do soft shell 20c; do Princess 22c; do paper shell 20c; Tarragona 23c. Walnuts—Naples 16c; French do 15c; Sicily filberts 14c. Smyrna figs 18@20c. Dates 10@12½c. Pecans 14@16c. Tapioca 7@8c. Lemons—Messina, ₩ box, $7 00. Cocoanuts $7 00 per hundred.

Petroleum—Weekly Review.

December 20.—The following are the receipts of crude for the past week, by pipe line and railroad, with a comparison table for previous years, also the exports of refined east ward by the various railroads, including the Allegheny Valley, West Penn, Pennsylvania, and Pittsburgh and Connellsville:

	Barrels.
December 18, 1875	1,136
Same time 1874	1,501,695
Same time 1873	1,433,358
Same time 1872	1,193,209
Same time 1871	1,129,673
Same time 1870	1,093,127
Same time 1869	991,139
Same time 1868	1,043,883
Same time 1867	1,249,011
Same time 1866	1,240,011
Same time 1865	921,388

EXPORTS OF REFINED—The following are the exports of refined oil East by the various railroads for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.
Allegheny Valley Railroad	2,537	1,694

The following are the exports of refined oil East by the various routes from January 1st to December 18th:

	1875.	1873.	1874.	1875.
P. R. R	109,738	130,593	91,954	118,962
A. V. R. R	442,367	441,804	267,282	443,312
P. & C. R. R				219,228
Total	713,040	742,397	553,786	869,274

Receipts of Pig Metal, Blooms and Ore. The following are the receipts of pig metal, blooms and ore for the past twenty-four hours:

PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILWAY.

Cars.		Cars.
Nimick & Co, m	16	Carnegie, B & Co, m 2
Total		18

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD.

Cars.		Cars.
Sho'nb'g'r, B & Co, o	10	Jones & Laughlin, o 2
Chess, S & Co, o	2	
Total		14

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Cars.		Cars.
E Thomson S W, m	10	Robinson, R & Co, m 1
Luey Furnace, c	8	G W Glass, s 1
Sho'nb'g'r, B & Co, o	4	Zug & Co, s 1
Wm Garrett, m	1	
Total		26

BY RIVER.

(Steamer Exchange.)	Tons.
Wm Clark & Co, m	10
(By Barge.)	Tons.
Nimick & Co, m	226

RIVER PACKETS.

BROWNSVILLE AND GENEVA.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PITTSBURGH, BROWNSVILLE AND GENEVA PACKET CO.

LEAVES DAILY AT 7 A. M. and 4 P. M. LEAVES BROWNSVILLE AT 5 A. M. and 12 M.

For all Points on the Monongahela River.

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STEAMER ELECTOR.....CAPT. R. E. ABRAMS
STEAMER CHIEFTAIN..CAPT. J. L. HENDRICKS
STEAMER R. ROWLAND.....CAPT. P. ROWLAND

For further particulars, inquire on WHARFBOAT foot of Grant street, Pittsburgh.

No freight will be received after 5 o'clock.

A. S. CARLISLE, Agent.
R. E. ABRAMS, Superintendent.

FROM BELLAIRE.

For Marietta, Parkersburg, Pomeroy, Gallipolis, Huntington, Ironton, Portsmouth, Maysville and Cincinnati.

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ANDES,

CHARLES MUHLEMAN.....Master.

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J. HARRISON.....Master.

EXPRESS,

A. B. BOOTH.....Master.

IRONTON.

For Parkersburg, Gallipolis and Ironton.

EVERY MONDAY—4 P. M.

THE FINE PASSENGER STEAMER

SALT VALLEY,

T. S. SANFORD.....Captain
W. A. and L. L. MADDY.....Clerks.

Will leave as announced above.

For Freight or Passage apply on Board or to

J. D. COLLINGWOOD,
S. R. & W. J. PATTERSON, Agents.

ZANESVILLE.

For Marietta and Zanesville.

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CHAS. M. BUCHANAN.....Clerk

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PARKERSBURG.

For Wheeling, Marietta and Parkersburg.

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MARKET BOY,

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L. B. SCOTT.....Clerk.

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Corner Wood, foot of Wood street.

PORTSMOUTH AND CINCINNATI

For Wheeling, Marietta, Parkersburg, Ironton, Portsmouth and Cincinnati.

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GRANITE STATE,

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R. H. KERR.....Clerk.

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No. 13 Wood street, or
S. R. & W. J. PATTERSON,
Wharf-boat, foot of Wood street.

CINCINNATI AND LOUISVILLE.

For Cincinnati and Louisville.

EVERY WEDNESDAY—3 P. M.

THE NEW AND SPLENDID PASSENGER PACKET

EMMA GRAHAM,

O. B. COOPER.....Master.
N. EARHART.....Clerk.

Will leave as announced.

For Freight or Passage apply on Board or to

J. D. COLLINGWOOD,
GEORGE H. GHRIEST, and
S. R. & W. J. PATTERSON, Agents.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

LAING & McKALLIP,

DEALERS IN

GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED,

Baled Hay, &c.

GENERAL AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED
PHŒNIX, LOUISVILLE AND ROSEDALE HYDRAULIC CEMENTS.
Calcined Plaster, White Lime.
SOLE AGENTS OF CELEBRATED
WILKESBARRE ANTHRACITE COAL.
847 Liberty Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

5,000 Bbls. APPLES.

Wanted 5,000 persons each to buy a barrel of Apples for themselves or friend for a Christmas present.

HENRY REA, Jr.,
305 Liberty st., opposite Smithfield st.

FLOUR.

2,000 BARRELS FRESH GROUND FLOUR, from Old Wheat, Winter and Spring. For sale by

DANIEL WALLACE,
353 Liberty street.

Lindsay, Sterrit & Co.,

Invite the attention of buyers to their

NEW AND EXTENSIVE STOCK OF

Coal Hods, Coal Vases, Fire Irons, AND General Hardware AT BOTTOM PRICES.

We have just received our Fall importation of Fire Irons, direct from Birmingham, England, consisting of Ormulu Brass and Bronzed Top, Polished Steel and Nickel Plated, in sets and pairs, which we offer at Lowest Prices.

Lindsay, Sterrit & Co.,

247 LIBERTY STREET,

OPPOSITE HEAD OF WOOD STREET,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN

JAMES IRWIN & CO.,

OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID,
NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA,
AND AQUA AMMONIA.

OFFICE No. 15 MARKET ST., PITTSBURG

Receipts of Pig Metal, Blooms and Ore. The following are the receipts of pig metal, blooms and ore for the past twenty-four hours:

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Will leave as announ

CITY MATTERS

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

New Agent at East Liberty.

Mr. John Stewart has taken the agency for the COMMERCIAL at East Liberty, and will serve its patrons promptly and diligently.

Orders left at any of the following places will be attended to promptly:

W. G. Anderson, Penn avenue.

W. L. Dennison, corner Frankstown and Penn avenues.

T. McKean, corner Station and Railroad streets.

Or Mrs. Gish's, Frankstown avenue, Twenty-first ward.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV. } Room 23, First National Bank: } PITTSBURGH, PA., December 18, 1875.

Time.	Bar	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	30.296	16	66	N.W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	30.270	19	69	N.W.	Gentle	Cloudy
9 P. M..	30.460	15	82	E.	Gentle	Clear.

Mean barometer. 30.334 Highest thermom....29
Mean thermon..... 16 Lowest thermom.... 8

Capt. McCloskey Charged With Manslaughter.

Capt. James McCloskey, who was in charge of the steamer Tigress when the unfortunate explosion occurred, has been arrested and held in $5,000 bail, to answer a charge of manslaughter, and with violation of the steamboat laws. It will be remembered that John and Joseph Tarr were killed by the explosion.

Theodore Tilton at Library Hall.

Notwithstanding the severity of the weather on Saturday evening, a large audience gathered at Library Hall to hear Theodore Tilton deliver his lecture on "The Problem of Life." We are very certain no one regretted leaving home. Such was the interest manifested that not one left the hall until the close of the lecture. For almost two hours the orator held the closest attention of his audience, and he was frequently interrupted by applause. Such was the interest of the lecture, and the ability of its delivery, that we have no doubt a repetition of it would crowd the house.

Friendship.

Shortly you will be called upon to manifest your love and friendship, and as it is been customary in all ages for parents to give good gifts to their children, and for friends to manifest their good will, one toward another, by giving a memento of some description, and value, as a token of such friendship, so it is that we now find the ont-croppings of this inherent principle manifesting itself as the merry Christmas time approaches. Mr. George W. Haslett, No. 79 Smithfield street, has in stock a fine line of goods suitable for Christmas gifts, and are of such value that cannot fail to be fully appreciated; for instance, a fine examination of jewelry, or a fine gold watch, for either ladies or gentlemen, or a solid silver or plated tea set, and a host of other fine goods, at low prices, are offered for your inspection. Mr. Haslett has secured the services of Mr. Charles Sheibe, an experienced and reliable watchmaker, having learned his trade with Mr. Steel Turbett, who was one of the finest workmen in this city in his day.

Generous Coal Dealers.

Messrs. Heath & White, a coal firm at White Heath Station, on the Connellsville Railroad, in view of the fact that many poor people are suffering for want of fuel, announce their intention to furnish free a certain quantity of coal during the winter to relieve this want. Col. Heath, of the firm named, has consulted with the Connellsville Railroad authorities, and they have agreed to deliver the coal at the Ross street depot, in this city, free of charge. Messrs. Heath & White have selected Mr. S. P. Skiles, of this city, as consignee, to whom the coal will be shipped. Rev. Mr. Travelli has been selected to confer with the officers of the new Relief Society, which is now being made an organization, for the purpose of making arrangements for the distribution of the coal to the deserving poor. Mr. Travelli has not yet been notified of his trust, but will doubtless accept. Messrs. Heath & White will pay the distributing agent or agents to consult with Mr. Skiles, the consignee, at his office on the Monongahela wharf, between Smithfield and Grant streets, and he will deliver the coal upon their order. The cost of delivery is expected to be borne by the Relief Society, that being the only expense to be incurred in the whole project. Col. Heath says he will have a car load of coal sent to the Connellsville depot just as soon as arrangements are made for its distribution, and he desires that a car be not allowed to remain at the depot more than one day, as the railroad company cannot permit the siding to be blocked for a longer time. It is intended to keep up these consignments of coal, and Col. Heath guarantees the co-operation of all the coal firms on the line of the Connellsville Railroad in this charitable object.

This is a most praiseworthy charity, and is worthy of emulation on the part of other dealers.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Pittsburghers almost unanimously advocate the encouragement of home talent and home industry; and now that a new play, written by one of our citizens, is to be produced at the Opera House, it is to be hoped that they will be true to their faith and turn out in large numbers and give moral countenance and financial encouragement to Mr. J. Newton Gotthold. This evening "The Victor of Rhe, or Risen from the Dead," a romantic drama from the brain and pen of Mr. G., will have its first representation on any stage. As the author is a gentleman of culture and refinement, as well as an actor of more than ordinary ability, it is safe to look for a more than ordinarily interesting performance. Those who have had an opportunity to examine the new play accord to it purity of language, ingenuity of plot, and skill in presentation of scenes and incidents. The stock company, headed by Mr. Gotthold, have been rehearsing daily for some time, and will without question be well up in all details. Mr. Arthur Palmer and his assistants have painted five new sets of scenery complete, surpassing anything in this line yet done; while handsome new costumes, made expressly for this piece, set it off to the best advantage. For the first time in the history of the stage real electricity will be introduced in a storm scene, special preparations having been made in this direction. New arrangements for lighting the house have been made, and, altogether, the occasion will be one of peculiar interest.

Fifth Avenue Comedy Theater.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin, or Life Among the Lowly," has always been a popular play in Pittsburgh, and it will gratify a great many people to hear that it is to be revived at the Fifth Avenue Comedy Theater during the present week. Mr. Sam S. Sanford, who has played the part of *Uncle Tom* more than a thousand times, in the principal theaters of this country and Europe, will appear in that character, and be supported by a full dramatic company, including little Hattie Irving as *Eva*. Ample preparations have been made in the way of scenic properties, Sanford's Minstrel Company will appear in the plantation scenes, adding to the attractions of the play, and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be played every evening, and at matinees on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

Library Hall.

Haverly's celebrated minstrel organization, made up of the best performers in that line, begin a week's engagement at Library Hall this evening. When they visited the city on a former occasion, they won the admiration of everybody by the excellence of their singing, the freedom of all acts from vulgarity, and the general ability of the individual performers. That they have not deteriorated is evident from the tone of the press of other cities. For instance, the New Orleans Picayune says:

"The vocal talent and proficiency of the Haverly's Minstrels are very much above the usual endowment of traveling companies; and these vocal gifts find noted and notable prominence in the lively ballads which make up 'part first' of the programme."

Those desiring reserved seats can secure them at Hale's music store, No. 103 Smithfield street.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The patrons of Manager Aims' theater will find a holiday feast prepared for them each evening this week, and at matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. Billy Foster, the inimitable comic singer, heads the list of new comers. Then we have Harry Kennedy, ventriloquist; the Snyder brothers, four in number, gymnasts; Master Eddie and his troupe of trained dogs; Miss Emily Prior, vocalist; George W. Hernaman, an old favorite; the Weston sisters; Griffin and Rice, Ella Davis, Joe Lang and others.

Beethoven Concert.

The Beethoven Society, F. Zitterbart, Jr., conductor, will give the second concert of their second season to-morrow night at the Academy of Music. All the members, and as many outsiders as may be fortunate enough to get admission, will enjoy a rare musical feast.

BIG CONFIDENCE GAME.

Eastern Merchants Victimized By a Bogus Firm—One of the Rascals Arrested In this City.

On Saturday morning a man answering to the name of J. F. Chapman, was arrested in a business house on Liberty street, while trying to dispose of consignment of goods from Erie. The arrest was made at the instance of the police authorities of Erie and the prisoner was placed in the lock-up to await the coming of an officer with a warrant. In possession of Chapman were found invoices of Philadelphia merchants against the firm of Graves & Bro., together with invoices, bills of lading, etc. He had also a number of letters addressed to J. F. Chapman, some of them being from his wife.

The cause of the arrest is fully explained by the following from an Erie paper of Saturday:

Some time during the latter part of November two men, one a young man named D. K. Graves, claiming to be resident of St. Louis, the other about forty, named J. F. Chapman, claiming to be a resident of Toledo, Ohio, came to this city, took up their quarters at the Reed House, rented a store and announced that they they would open with a large stock of groceries, provisions and liquors on December 15th. They also rented a house on East Sixth street, placed some furniture therein, engaged a cook for the postoffice, also put a small amount of furniture in the store and acted generally as if they meant business. The firm name assumed was Graves & Bro., the brother, W. O. Graves, of New Orleans, being understood as a partner, and Chapman as bookkeeper. Several car loads of goods were received soon after from Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York, directed to Graves & Brother, Erie, Pa. The packages instead of being taken to the store, were carted, a portion of them to a barn in an alley, where the directions were erased and the goods re-carted—and a large portion of them shipped to W. Haisch, Pittsburgh, Pa., and other packages directed to other certain Pittsburgh parties. These Pittsburgh bills appeared as if shipped by E. A. Spiller, but an examination proved that Graves & Brother were the shipping parties.

On Saturday night, the fifth inst., seventeen boxes marked "C. P. Co., Pittsburgh," were detained in the Western freight depot because the directions did not correspond with the bills. The goods were then removed from the freight house to a barn in the rear of the Cottage House, where they were re-marked properly, and the same day sent back for shipment, and it is understood was shipped at that time. Certain parties in the city, suspecting that these movements were made for defrauding the various creditors, instituted an investigation, which resulted in plainly disclosing the fact that the firm of Graves & Bro. had no existence in fact, and that these two men assisted by confederates outside, had been carrying on a bold series of frauds, the aggregate amount being estimated at $9,000.

The furniture that had been placed in the storeroom disappeared a day or two ago. Chapman, who formerly was once a wealthy distiller and lumber dealer in St. Louis, left for parts unknown Wednesday. His rascally partner also left Thursday.

RATTIGAN'S REDBASE.

Over One Hundred Ciminal Charges Outlawed—And as Many Poor Victims Left Without Redress.

Many of our readers will remember the arrest, several months ago, of T. H. Rattigan, European agent, on charges of embezzlement. The informations were made before Alderman McMasters, there being no less than one hundred and three complainants, all of whom alleged that Rattigan had taken from them various sums, ranging in amount from five to to one thousand dollars, reaching in the aggregate above $20,000, for which he gave drafts on banks in England, Ireland and elsewhere, which, upon presentation by those to whom they were forwarded, were dishonored to be worthless. All of the informations were taken prior to the March term of the Criminal Court, and the accused was arrested and held to appear at that term. The informations, however, were not returned to the March term, and by the failure of the magistrate to perform this important duty in the premises, the charges have been outlawed, the Supreme Court having interpreted the law in such cases as requiring that a bill of indictment must be found within two years after the commission of the offense.

WHAT ALDERMAN M'MASTERS SAYS.

A reporter of this journal visited the office of Alderman McMasters last Saturday, with the object of getting at the facts of the case. In reply to questions the Squire said there was some trouble in court about the matter, and that in withholding the informations from the March term he had obeyed an order of the Judge (Ewing) who at that time presided in the Criminal Court.

THE CASES BEFORE THE GRAND JURY.

The case having been returned to the present term of court, the Assistant District Attorney was about to frame bills indictment, when, ascertaining the dates of the alleged offenses, he found that in all of the one hundred and three cases against Rattigan, the limitation had expired. He therefore went to work on those nine, and having prepared the indictments, he dispatched an officer in search of the prosecutors. After going about the city on this mission for the greater part of three days, the officer returned and reported that he could not find a solitary prosecutor. Two or three of them, he learned, had gone to Wheeling, one to Ireland, and as to the others, he was unable to obtain the slightest clue to the where-abouts of any of them. Thus the matter stood last Saturday, when a re-examination of dates convinced Mr. Hunter that the "time was up" on all save nine, and the prosecutor in that case had, he believed, gone to Ireland. The truth is, nearly all the prosecutors belong to a migratory class, and seldom remain long in a place, and it is probable that if the cases were right in other respects, but few of these persons could be found when wanted.

There is now no question as to the results of the proceedings—or rather the failure to proceed at the proper time—in the case. Rattigan has escaped scot free, and the poor people who have lost their money have not the remotest chance of ever recovering a cent of it. Alderman Hunter, too, is interested in a little bill of costs, amounting to upward of five hundred dollars, which he will probably not be able to collect. On his ready paid out about a hundred and fifty dollars in the case, and his only chance to get his money back is in the action of the Grand Jury